

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the Cross-Reference to Related Applications which begins on page 2, line 4 and ends on page 2, line 6, as follows:

-- This utility patent ~~[[A]]~~application is a continuation-in-part ~~application~~ of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/649,757, filed on August 26, 2003, which issued as U.S. Patent 6,817,750 B1 on November 16, 2004, which is hereby incorporated in its entirety by reference.--

Please amend the paragraph which begins on page 7, line 6 and ends on page 7, line 13, as follows:

--The blender container **106** also includes a ~~base 110~~~~[[,]]~~ selectively removable lid **104**, **105**, and a base member **110** that is coupled to an agitating means **108**. As shown in Figure 1, the lid is composed of two components, but it is contemplated that a one-piece or multi-piece cap may also be used. The lid **104** may be locked on to the opening of the container **106** via a cap-locking member **107**. The cap-locking member **107** may be an L-shaped ridge located at the lip of the container **106**. The cap-locking member **107** engages a corresponding member (not shown) on the lid **104** in order to securely fix the lid **104** to the container **106**.--

Please amend the paragraph which begins on page 10, line 6 and ends on page 10, line 20, as follows:

--Figure 7 is directed to an exemplary embodiment of the blender container **106**.

The blender container **106** comprises a main body that defines a volume and a lid **104**, **105** that is affixed thereto. The lid includes a plurality of openings **700** that may be used to decant the contents of the container **106** while the lid **104** remains affixed to the container **106**. The blender container **106** also includes a base **110**, and a plurality of generally elongated ridges **123** integrally formed on the interior of blender container **106**, as generally depicted in Figs. 7, 10. The base **110** is sized to fit within the recessed well **300**. Also, the base **110** is coupled to the container **106** by a screw-fit relation. The base **110** also includes an agitating means **108**, as shown in Figure 9. Turning back to Figure 7, the blender container **106** also includes a plurality of locking members **109** spaced about the periphery of the blender container **106** near the base **110** of the container **106**. As shown in the exemplary blender container **106** depicted in Figure 7, a juicer **111** may be provided within the body of the blender container **106**. As those skilled in the art will appreciate, the blender container **106** may be used without the juicer **111**. The blender container **106** may include a handle **800** and a spout **801** that facilitates the decanting of the contents of the container.--

Please amend the paragraph which begins on page 11, line 15 and ends on page 11, line 21, as follows:

--Figure 11 illustrates one embodiment of a mug-type container **1100**. The container **1100** includes at least one wall **1101** that defines a fluid containing area. As shown in the figure, the wall **1101** may be slightly tapered when moving from the

mouth of the container 1100 to the base of the container 1100. The container 1100 also includes [[a]] means for grasping or holding the container 1102. In another embodiment, the means may be a handle 1102, which is fixed to the outer wall 1101. In one embodiment, the handle 1102 is a generally U-shaped. ~~In other exemplary embodiments --~~

Please delete the partial paragraph which begins on page 13, line 1 and ends on page 13, line 2, as follows:

~~--may be coupled over the threads 1200 of the container 1100 so that it is easier for an individual to drink from the container 1100--~~

Please amend the Abstract which begins on Page 20, line 2 and ends on page 20, line 13, as follows:

--A blender system composed of a mixing base that is capable of agitating the contents of a plurality of containers. The mixing base includes a ~~means for~~ rotating [[a]] shaft, a recessed well positioned at a top of the mixing base, a pressure-actuated switch positioned about the periphery of the recessed well, and a locking groove. One container that may be used with the mixing base ~~is a container having~~ has an opening at one end and a base at a second end, where the base is tapered. The container also includes one or more locking members ~~and~~ in spaced relation about the periphery of the container body. The container body may also include a handle that is coupled to the exterior of the container. The container also includes a ring that is selectively attachable

and removable from the periphery of the opening such that when the ring is coupled to the container, the user is able to drink from the container without spilling or dripping.--